30 - July - 2025

Mock Test
General Knowledge - II
Current Affairs

Part - II - Attempt any FOUR questions.

Question. 8.

Critically evaluate Russia- China growing relations and its implications on global power politics?

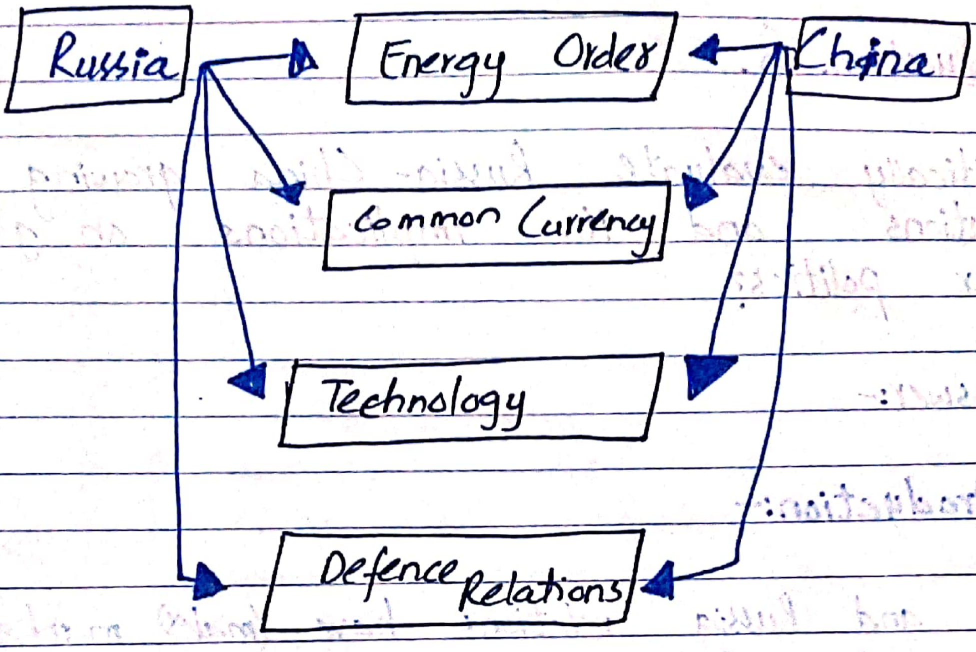
Answer:-

Introduction:-

China and Russia relations have ~~(make)~~ marked by periods of both cooperation and fierce strategic rivalry, but over the past decades their ties have been strengthened. The (n) major driver is their common rivalry with the United States. China and Russia has increased joint security exercises, deepened economic relationships and coordinated on the diplomatic front in order to challenge the norms of US led world order.

China - Russia Alliance to Challenge US-Led World Order:-

Russia and China's growing relations are serving as grand strategy to challenge the existing world order and to make world truly a multipolar. (The) China and Russia has increased their coordination in different sectors such as in energy, currency, technolog and in military.



(a) Energy-Order and China-Russia's Relation:-

Sanctions were imposed on Russia (after) by Europe, when Russia attacked Ukraine. Europe has been largest buyer of Oil and gas from Russia and for Russia oil and gas is its major economic factor. China, on the other hand, tripled its gas and oil imports from Russia and China became its largest importer of oil and gas.

Furthermore, China found cheaper oil and gas 35% less price against international prices and continued its production and exports.

On the other hand United States could not helped Europer in getting cheaper oil and gas as middle east was not ready to increase production and decrease prices.

(b) Trade in Local Currency and China-Russia Growing Relations:-

After attacked on Ukrain, US weaponized Dollar and SWIFT against Russia. US frozen the 300(bn) billion dollars (Rx) reserves of Russia, but in a mean time, China came in order to rescue Russia.

China promotes trade in Yuan and CIPs, as well as, Russia(?) also shifted major portion of trade into Yuan and CIPs.

Russia-China (Rx) relations are challenging US world dollar system and SWIFT system with Yuan, CIPs and BRICS pay system.

(c) Technology and China-Russia Growing Relations:-

Russia has been a major of different technology from Germany, UK, France, Finland, Norway, Taiwan, South Korea which are allies of US.

US ~~(Sx)~~ imposed sanctions on Russia and stopped imports of technology to Russia especially CHIP- semi conductors in order to hit Russian transport, energy and defence industries.

But China solved the problem for Russia and ~~(imports x x te)~~ ~~(became x)~~ ~~(o x)~~ found major export market of technology, that is, Russia.

(d) China- Russia Growing Defence Relations:-

China and Russia both through joint military and security exercises strengthened their defence systems.

Russia sold 400 anti-ballistic missiles to China and also traded SU 35 jet fighters to China. In defence, China is largest ~~(exporter)~~ importer ~~(for)~~ from Russia.

(e) China- Russia alignment and BRICS:-

China and Russia have championed BRICS as an alternative to the G7 and platform form amplifying the voices of emerging powers on the global political and economic issues. Between 2023 and 2025, BRICS underwent a significant transformation expandings its membership to include five additional states.

Conclusion:-

After invasion of Ukraine in 2022, Russia found itself on the brink of international isolation, but particularly sought support from China as its neighbour, friend, and a global power. Both China and Russia considers US as common threat, so they challenged world dollar and SWIFT systems through their support from each other. Though China's vision is broader and more ambitious (but they) but both want to make world a multipolar in a true sense.

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Question .7.

The economic revival of Pakistan would be an elusive dream until extensive structural reforms are not introduced. Explain.

Answer:-

Introduction:-

Pakistan's economic woes are deeply rooted. Chronic fiscal deficits, a ballooning debt burden . and and overreliance on imports has plagued the nation. In 2024 Pakistan showed little improvements such as higher remittances, current account deficit narrowed, new investments in infrastructure and renewable energy projects (hs), due to CPEC, gained transactions. But these are green shoots which are always considered as fragile. It is because without broadening the tax net, Pakistan will struggle to refund the investments in health, education and infrastructure needed for sustainable growth.

Structural Reforms: A Blueprint for Pakistan's Economic Revival:-

① Fiscal Discipline: The first priority must be fiscal discipline. Expanding tax base by incentive compliance as it could unblock billions in revenue. Digitizing tax collection - a step of 2024 projects is right step. Moreover government should trim wasteful spending, particularly on loss-making state-owned enterprises like Pakistan International Airlines.

(2) Reforms in Energy Sector:-

Reforms in energy sector is equally important. ~~(Privitization)~~ Privatising distribution companies, accelerating transition to solar and wind and renegotiating power purchase agreements with independent procedures could ease the circular debt burden.

(3) Increase Exports and Investment:-

To increase exports, Pakistan must pivot toward high-value sectors like technology and pharmaceuticals. Special economic zones under CPEC offer a platform, but they need streamlined regulations and targeted incentives to attract foreign direct investment (FDI).

(4) Reforms in Agricultural Sector:-

Modernising irrigation, promoting agri-tech start ups, and linking farmers to global supply chains could transform the sector. The government's recent trade deal with Saudi Arabia for rice and dairy exports is a promising start, but it ~~(mu)~~ must be applied elsewhere.

(5) Political Stability and National Consensus:-

Economic revival requires a national consensus and political stability. A multi-year economic charter, endorsed by all major stakeholders could provide the continuity needed to implement reforms.
Furthermore, civil-military ~~(civ)~~ relations must also be ~~(cr)~~ recalibrated to prioritize ~~eco~~ economic security alongside traditional defence concerns.

Conclusion:-

To sum up, Pakistan's economic revival is not a distant dream but rather it needs a resilient populace, a strategic location and untapped potential in multiple sectors. The journey begins with single step of leaders, institutions and citizens in order to ~~(redif)~~ redefine its economic comeback.

Question - 5:-

How do you see the post conflict diplomatic drives of Pakistan and India?

Answer:-

Introduction:-

Pakistan and India are the two traditional rival neighbours that has given birth to arms race and armed conflicts and badly shaken ~~nux~~ mutual confidence and created deep-rooted suspicions between the people of two countries. As a result both countries have failed to ~~gain~~ make any gains in terms of socio-economic developments or establish a dependable security apparatus.

Following recent tensions and a ceasefire between India and Pakistan, both nations are actively engaged in diplomatic efforts though their approaches and goals differ. India is still focusing to highlight Pakistan as ~~rex~~ being responsible for terrorism while on the other hand Pakistan is ~~frax~~ trying to project active role and responsible image of Indian accusations.

India's Diplomatic Drives:-

a) Global Campaign headed by seasoned diplomat and Politician Shashi Tharoor:-

~~India~~ Tharoor has led delegations to western and Asian capitals where focus appears to be on framing Pakistan as an aggressor and warning of the risks posed by what India perceives as Pakistan's use of proxies and cross-border adventurism. Indian officials have ~~been~~ hinted at the possibility of further preemptive action, creating unease in diplomatic circles.

(b) Accusing Pakistan of Supporting Terrorist Groups:-

India is accusing Pakistan of supporting terrorist groups and ~~ac~~ perceiving Pakistan ~~tox~~ using proxies and cross-border attacks and escalations in India.

(c) Shifting Narrative :-

India is aiming to reset the terms of engagement with Pakistan, emphasing firm and unyielding retaliation against terrorist attacks including cross-border operations and holding Pakistan accountable for any acts of terrorism.

(d) Resistently Promoting Narrative as Pakistan's Responsibility for Terrorism:-

Indian's PM continuously and resistantly focusing on narrative that (Pakistive) Pakistan will be hold responsible for any terrorist attack and it will be considered as act of war against Indian Soil.

Pakistan's Diplomatic Drive:-

(a) Pakistan's multi-prolonged diplomatic Approach:-

Pakistan has opteded for multi-prolonged diplomatic approach. Several teams formed with primary group led by former Foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto. Pakistan emphasized that their military response was reactive, and highlighted the potential dangers of unchecked escalation between two nuclear - armed states.

(b) Projecting Responsible Image:

Pakistan is actively working to project a responsible image and counter Indian accusations.

(c) Focus on Peace and De-escalation:-

Pakistan is likely seeking a de-escalation of tensions and return to dialogue with India.

Conclusion:-

Though US has played more active role in mediating the conflict, signaling a shift in US policy towards region. Despite ceasefire, the situation remains tense. As the current post-war scenario offers both danger and opportunity. The danger lies in miscalculations could lead to another war. The opportunity lies in choosing dialogue over destruction, as world could not afford war between two nuclear powers.